

trade, he proposed to deepen the harbor at OSTIA near Rome.

During the last year of his life, Caesar was planning a great expedition against the Parthians. Naturally, as a Roman, he would want revenge against them. Furthermore, he might well desire great wealth to cover his vast expenditures. A better frontier in the East was also a legitimate aim.

After his last victory in Spain it became evident that Caesar had no intention of restoring the republic. Many members of the old governing oligarchy hated him cordially in consequence. They bitterly resented the subordinate position of a mere advisory council to which he had reduced the Senate. Moreover, the way to political advancement was closed to them all, except as his ministers, for the people voted only for his nominees. Caesar, however, had generously forgiven many

of his former opponents and had even given them official positions; but this was partly due to the scarcity of first-class men among his subordinates. He had dismissed even his personal bodyguard. Warned of a plot, he went on with his work. On the fatal day (Mar. 15, 44 B.C.) he was surrounded by a group of conspirators in the Senate chamber; drawing their daggers, these aristocrats stabbed him to death.

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ruled that, on the great estates which were so common, especially in the south, one-third of the shepherds and herdsmen must be men of free birth. In the land laws of 59 B.C. ^{HE WAS CONSUL 59 BC} he had given advantages to civilian settlers who were fathers of three or more children. He planned drainage works on a large scale to increase the tillable lands of Italy. To increase

control of traffic and streets in Rome and regulations for local self-government in other towns. This law, which was finally enacted after Caesar's death, is commonly called the Lex Julia Municipalis. The qualifications for holding municipal office and for membership in the municipal senate were set forth at length. There is not enough evidence to prove that Caesar had worked out any general policy of "extending or curtailing the normal self-government of municipalities or colonies," but what evidence there is points to a plan to model municipal institutions all over the empire on those of Rome. He undoubtedly intended to raise the provinces toward an ultimate position of partnership in the commonwealth and thus unify the empire. He did away with the wicked contract system of collecting regular tithes in many provinces which so impoverished the people, and substituted the payment of a lump sum. He seems

to have planned a complete census of population and property throughout the empire to serve as a basis for a fair apportionment of imperial taxation. He even contemplated the huge task of revising and codifying the tangled mass of civil laws and making one new harmonious and systematic code of laws. However, this task was not carried to completion until five centuries later.

Caesar was also much interested in restoring the free population of Italy. Accordingly, he

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the provinces to be exploited for ~~the~~ the benefit of the city proletariat and the old Roman oligarchy. On the contrary, he apparently planned to weld the empire into one homogeneous whole by extending the citizenship.

Early in the eighteenth century A.D. a brass tablet was found at HERACLEA in southern Italy. It contained a long inscription dealing with various matters, especially

of the clubs which had made so much disorder under the lead of CLODIUS and MILIO, and of the use of soldiers to help the LICTORS in policing the overgrown city of Rome. Caesar also planned to reduce the number of persons receiving free grain at Rome from 320,000 to 150,000.

An extensive policy of colonization was to draw off the idle proletariat from Rome and restore them to productive work. Part of his plan was to provide land for his veterans, and many of them were given liberal land allotments; but a large problem was left to his successors, for there were about 35 LEGIONS under arms when Caesar died. In his colonial policy Caesar followed the example of CAIUS GRACCHUS. Thousands of proletarians had no wish to farm. He now carried out the Gracchan plans for an agricultural and mercantile colony near the ruins of ancient Carthage.

A commercial colony was founded on the site of CORINTH - Caesar is said to have planned to cut a canal across the isthmus. Several

other urban colonies were started in Africa and Spain. The planting of these numerous colonies in the provinces of the West also helped greatly in Romanizing these regions. As soon as it appeared that the citizens of any provincial city were deserving, Caesar granted them Latin rights or full citizenship. The Gauls north of the Po had been thus rewarded in 49 BC. This policy, and the admission of provincials to the Senate, showed that Caesar did not intend

(3)

But Caesar's attempts to check the wild spending by the rich at Rome and bring back the old simple life were not very effective. He made laws to prevent wearing pearls and purple and riding in litters, and forbade the sale of certain scarce and expensive foods.

Enforcement, however, continued only while Caesar was present in Rome and could attend to it personally.

more valuable was the abolition of most

died during the civil wars, and most of the rest had stepped out of his way. Caesar now promoted to the Senate many prominent men who had been loyal to him; some of these were provincials and a few had served as his military officers. Though Caesar had no intention of giving the initiative in government policies to the Senate, it was the permanent institution at home to which the people of the whole empire had grown accustomed to look for orders. Arrangements made by Caesar in the East were legalized by its decrees. The Senate was automatically filled up by the men chosen as magistrates by Caesar. Provincial governors usually received their appointments from Caesar, and he was careful not to give too many soldiers to any one governor. In fact, he planned that only the most trustworthy men should have any troops at all.

As soon as the battle of THAPSUS was won, Caesar turned his attention to all the various needed reforms. The Roman calendar year had only 355 days; consequently,

an extra month had to be added once in a while to keep it in line with the seasons. Since 52 B.C., however, the priests had not inserted enough extra months and the calendar was now two months in advance of the season. As dictator, Caesar introduced (45 B.C.) the Egyptian solar year of $365\frac{1}{4}$ days which provided for an ordinary year of 365 days and 366 days every fourth year. The Julian calendar was so nearly correct that its use was continued in Europe until 1582.

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if he had not realized that it would arouse too bitter opposition among the old families at Rome. There can be little doubt that Caesar aimed to make monarchy the lasting government of the Roman Empire.

A majority of the Senate had been hostile to Caesar during the years of his rise to power though a respectable minority had voted in his favor. However, some of his senatorial enemies had

would restore the old republic in all its forms. CICERO had spent most of his life at Rome in the midst of local quarrels and he was, after all, a theorist; whereas Caesar had been a military commander-in-chief for 13 years, making his own decisions and winning battles; he knew his own powers and trusted them. The many defeats suffered by his subordinates when he was absent had not made him overconfident of the ability of others. He knew the defects of the Roman political system; in fact, he had taken full advantage of them to advance his personal interests. Caesar was eminently a practical politician. There was much to do in a short time and he knew that he could do it.

His authority depended in the end on his veterans, his friends, and such armed forces as he kept ready; but he held so many different offices that his hands were on the control levers all the time. When he went away on his last Spanish campaign nothing of importance was done at home until he returned. He was consul from 48 B.C., and was made dictator for life (45 B.C.); in addition,

he held the powers of censor and the tribunician authority, including the veto power and personal inviolability. Since 63 BC he had been pontifex maximus or, head of the state religion. He could appoint all the magistrates and make war or peace, and he had been given the sole right to command the army. All these powers were granted to him according to the forms of law. He commonly used the title emperor or general; this was the origin of the modern title, "emperor." He would probably have accepted the title of "Rex"

48 BC (47, 46, 45) 44 BC POLICIES OF JULIUS CAESAR

Caesar saw clearly that his duty was to give the people of the Roman dominions a good and stable government. SULLA had turned the government back to the Senate, and the result had been bitter strife and finally civil war. Although Caesar was murdered before he had time to carry out his plans, the form of government he adopted gives an indication of what he intended. CICERO ardently hoped that Caesar